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DAHLIAS

1927

Albemarle Dahlia Fields
Charlottesville, Virginia
Route 3

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Charlottesville, Virginia

GENERAL INFORMATION

Order Early. Your orders are filled in rotation. Usually, no orders can be filled after May First.

Time of Shipment. Unless you specify shipping date, your roots will be sent about May First, carefully packed. I prepay charges on retail shipments.

Substitution. I do not substitute unless requested to do so.

Guaranty. I guarantee all roots to be true to name; also in healthy, growing condition when you receive them. All complaints should be made promptly.

Culture. Cultural suggestions sent with each purchase; also upon request.

INVITATION

Visitors are always welcome to see my Dahlias. The best blooms come during September and October. My Dahlias are field grown, and visitors should come suitably shod.

THE REV. HENRY ERVING BATCHELLER

Albemarle Dahlia Fields

Route 3

Charlottesville, Virginia

FOREWORD

All my Dahlias—about five acres of them—are grown in the open field. My soil is the rich, red clay that has made Albemarle County famous. Into this I have incorporated much sand and plant food. By plant food, I mean much rye and some cowpeas and sweet clover that I have plowed under to decompose. To this, the proper proportions of bone meal and potash are added from time to time.

In the Fall of the year, I plow deeply with the tractor. Then I sow rye or some other soil-improving crop. In the Spring, this is plowed under and the land put to some other crop that will help the soil. The following Fall this same land is again deeply plowed and allowed to "puff" with alternating freezes and thaws. In the Spring, the soil is very light and friable to a great depth, without any clods. You can sink ankle deep in it. After plowing again the roots are planted. The general crop is set out about the 15th of May to give the roots ample time for full maturity. Immature roots are not so good for any purpose. For one thing, immature roots do not carry well through the Winter in storage.

My Dahlias are rarely grown in the same field two years in succession, as I have room to move them around, because I have a good-sized farm. Having cleaner and better soil by this method of cultivation, I can grow cleaner and stronger roots. It minimizes the danger from diseases and insects. Dahlias prefer light soil (though they accommodate themselves to other kinds with good results). They are safer in uncontaminated soil. They are gross feeders. Thus, I keep my soil in best possible condition. (Read what Dr. Howe of the New York Botanical Gardens has written on this subject in the January 1927 A. D. S. Bulletin.)

Throughout the Summer and early Fall the cultivation is kept up consistently. Every Dahlia grower knows that cultivation is one of the most important factors in getting good Dahlias. I use no chemical fertilizers or stimulants, whatever, to force my Dahlias. Animal manures are never allowed in the Dahlia fields, here. Better results are gotten from soil-improving crops such as I have mentioned above. Animal manures contain a considerable quantity of stimulant that will often injure roots, however well rotted. I will not, knowingly, buy roots from growers who use animal manures or chemical fertilizers, as my experience in the past has been disastrous. In nearly every case where "stunts" are found, where I have not found a grubworm eating the root, or something of that sort, I have been able to trace it back to forcing fertilizers previously used, that have devitalized the roots for my use. It is better for the customer to buy roots that have been starved the previous year, than to buy roots that have been overfed.

Occasionally I encounter a question about Southern-grown roots, as though the climate might have a weakening effect. People who have traveled into this part of the South will smile over such a question being raised, of course. In the minds of less-informed people, the word "South" seems to connote torrid heat; and "torrid heat" suggests debility. It must be remembered that Dahlias originated in the mountains of Mexico. Also, that some of the finest of our Dahlia varieties have developed in Southern California. Let me remind you that the mountains of Virginia, where I grow my Dahlias, are considerably further north of both these localities. Our climate is very much like that of Philadelphia, and very much unlike that of Palm Beach and New Orleans. I find that Spring arrives about two weeks earlier in this locality than it does in Philadel-

phia, and that killing frost arrives about two weeks later. This gives us a longer growing season for the maturing of our roots and for the ripening of our seed. Otherwise, I see little difference in our daily temperatures, though our nights are cooler and our Winters are a bit less severe, as well as shorter. So, there is nothing in the climate of this region to devitalize either man or Dahlias. I have sent my Dahlia roots up North, and they have done wonderfully well, say my customers, who have sent back for more in subsequent years.

My stock is healthy, or I would not sell it. I have one reputation that must be maintained. I have another reputation in the making. Neither would permit me, knowingly, to sell inferior stock. I sell roots that have not been forced (this is important). And as they have been well grown, under favorable conditions, I know they are full of vitality, and that they should give excellent results to my customers. My roots ought not bring forth "runts" in your gardens if your conditions are favorable.

For years, I grew Dahlias purely for my own satisfaction and exercise. Then, I bought this farm upon the advice of the doctors. I turned my "hobby" into a business for local trade. Now, I have around five acres in well-selected Dahlias (with the stock ever increasing), and I have had to broaden out into a catalogue business. My prices are low to introduce my stock more widely, and to help popularize Dahlia growing. I would have been in the catalogue trade before this, but my home and Dahlia roots burned in 1923, and I have had to begin all over again. Each year, I am growing from one to three thousand seedlings from pedigreed seed. I am developing a number of varieties of my own, for which I claim considerable merit. I have some three and four-year-old seedlings that go to the trial gardens this Spring. I shall offer these in my 1928 catalogue, after exhibiting them. I shall be glad to answer letters of inquiry about these.

It is my aim to specialize in those varieties which may justly be rated as useful and artistic. I do not include many of the novelties that are exploited, because I see in them qualities which assure me they will not last in favor, long. For a variety to qualify for lasting favor, it must have certain desirable qualifications. For one thing, its size and coloring must be such that a considerable group of people will like it. The stems must be long and strong enough to make the blooms show to advantage, either as a cut flower or as a good garden decorator. I have little use for the short-stemmed varieties, or for those varieties that are too heavy for their stems. A milk bottle in the exhibition room is not my ultimate goal for Dahlias! A Dahlia ought to show to advantage without being held up with florists' wire; and the plant should be a robust grower, with foliage that is strong and resistant. Of course, a commercial grower must include varieties for sale, to meet the demand, that he may not think artistic or useful. Hence, I carry a limited stock of notable varieties demanded only for exhibition purposes on account of their unusual size and unusualness of coloring and formation. I do not recommend these to the average amateur, unless he is out to win prizes at the flower shows. Even then, it is not always necessary. Some of these cheaper varieties I list are so good that they have become "standards"—varieties that will last for many years in popular favor. They are cheap because the supply is abundant to meet the demand. I most heartily recommend these to the beginners, especially, until you have had opportunity to test your soil, and develop your skill in Dahlia culture.

I am including some suggestions for the culture of Dahlias. If the beginner will religiously follow these cultural hints, he will not fail, unless the season or soil is abnormally unfavorable to all gardening. If you follow the advice offered by some one else, as so often happens, you may do even better; but please don't blame my roots if you don't succeed.

One question is often asked me: "Can women grow Dahlias?" Some of our most successful Dahlia growers are women. It takes good digging, of

course, which is rather heavy work for a woman; but all good gardening calls for deep digging. If you do good gardening with other things, flowers or vegetables, you will grow splendid Dahlias. Get good varieties, and then put intelligent effort into it, all season. I find it a bit difficult to convince some people that I don't resort to "professional tricks" in growing my Dahlias. All I do is intelligent and painstaking gardening, such as I also put on my tomatoes and other garden produce.

It is a pleasure to send my catalogue to any one that desires it. It is a pleasure, also, to answer letters that come to me from people that wish to consult me about some phase of Dahlia growing. I am a Dahlia enthusiast, and I am glad to hear from other Dahlia enthusiasts. I am glad to get Dahlia "tips," even as I am quite willing to impart what I know—or think I know. I have no Dahlia secrets. As for the soundness of what I tell you, be well assured that there is no such a thing as an infallible gardener. We all make mistakes. There are many things we have yet to learn. Take my advice and keep clear of the "know it all." We have them engaged in the Dahlia business, I am sorry to say, as in other businesses and professions. "The world do move," and the reliable Dahlia grower is humbly conscious of the fact that he has much to learn about his business.

The cultural hints I send you represent the consensus of opinion I have gathered from many of our most successful and reputable Dahlia growers.



"LIST OF VARIETIES"

LILLIAN BALDWIN

The

Champion Keeper for 1926

at the A. D. S. Show held in New York City

Winner of

Darnell Cup and

A. D. S. Silver Medal, Special

A beautiful shade of deep rose pink, or "crushed strawberry," held upright, but gracefully, on very strong, exceptionally long stems. One of the varieties destined for permanent favor, as it has artistic merit, health, stem, vigor, and endurance. It scored 87 at Storrs Trial Gardens in 1925.

When I first saw this variety being arranged for exhibition, I decided, "There is a lovely, all-purpose variety that will appeal to a Dahlia lover of discriminating tastes, as it has refinement of coloring and form, united with desirable habits. It ought to take its place with varieties that will endure beyond the first flush of popular favor."

"Lillian Baldwin" originated under Mr. Fred A. Danker, of Albany, N. Y.

Price, \$10.00

In my 1928 catalogue I expect to feature some of my own seedlings that have won considerable favor with Dahlia fanciers who have visited my fields. These will be scored at the A. D. S. Trial Gardens, this Summer, before being sold.

ALBEMARLE JOY (Peony)—This is a very large orchid pink, of the Peony type. I do not recommend it as a variety of rarest beauty, though it is good; but it has the longest true stems of any variety I have ever seen. The true stems (from the blossom to the first set of leaves) are at least 24 inches long, so that a 40-inch or more stem is easily obtainable. These stems are very strong and wiry, drooping gracefully, but not weakly. I market this only because I think it may be of value to hybridizers, rather than to other growers. It is a very free bloomer. \$1.00.

ALEXANDER POPE (Hybrid Cactus)—A giant prize winner recently brought out from New England. A beautiful crimson face, with magenta reverse, making a lovely combination, due to the usual twisting of the petals. Great depth as well as size, on a long, stiff stem. \$7.50 Net.

ALEX WALDIE (Decorative)—A lovely large cream, overlaid with pale salmon pink. Strong stems. 75c.

- AMBASSADOR** ("Hybrid Cactus" some say; "Cactus" others claim)—An immense, clear yellow, with salmon shadings at center. One of the best exhibition, garden, and cut-flower varieties I know. It is tremendously popular for its beauty. \$1.50.
- AMON RA** (Decorative)—Copper, orange, and gold combined in some localities, but a stunning reddish bronze in others. A gorgeous big favorite for exhibition and garden. Stiff, long stems. Robust grower and floriferous. One of the greatest varieties ever grown. \$1.00.
- ATTRACTION** (Hybrid Cactus)—Large lilac rose; on very stiff stems. Another favorite. 50c.
- AZUSA** (Decorative)—One of the most artistic varieties grown in my fields in 1926. Described as "pure, delicate pink, shading to blush center"; but, for me, it had somewhat of an ashen overcast, which was lovely and unusual. Large enough, but not gross. Borne erectly on long, straight stems. An importation little known in America. \$3.00.
- A. D. LIVONI** (Show)—A lovable, old-fashioned sea-shell pink. A good cutter. 25c.
- BALLET GIRL** (English Cactus)—Orange and white; orange; white; or white and orange—that is, no two hardly ever alike. Stems somewhat better than most of this class. "Bessie Boston" originated this variety a few years ago. She says it has now reached England and has won several prizes. 75c.
- BERTHA JOST** (Decorative)—Very large, yellow shading to pink; overlaid with burnt orange. An excellent cut flower. \$2.50.
- BEAUTY OF KENT** (Show)—Fancy, small, with blooms of Burgundy and white petals, alternating consistently. 25c.
- BONNIE BRAE** (Decorative)—A lovely cream, shaded blush pink. Very large, very good stems. Beautiful. 75c.
- CALIFORNIA ENCHANTRESS** (Hybrid Cactus)—A large, pale pink; blooming profusely; on strong stems which hold the flower erectly. \$1.00.
- CHAMPAGNE** (Decorative)—One of the many notable varieties brought out by the widely known "Bessie Boston," who has introduced more good varieties, probably, than any other hybridizer in the world. This is one of her most popular exhibition varieties, and it has been conspicuously successful as a prize winner, East and West. With us, it is a harmonious blending of dull gold and blush chamois. The bloom is held rigidly upright on an exceptionally powerful stem—long by heavy disbudding. A vigorous plant that bears many blooms. \$2.00.
- CHARLES STRATTON** (Decorative)—A recent introduction that is an excellent, prize winning, all purpose variety. Pale gold, blended with old rose. Strong grower, free bloomer, tall plants, with stems that are long and stiff. \$3.50.
- CHARM** (Decorative)—Marean's excellent all-purpose variety of burnt orange and yellow. Gracefully poised on very good, stiff stems. 50c.
- CINDERELLA** (Hybrid Cactus)—Very lovely and desirable. A fawn pink, shading to a light tan center, borne on long, graceful stems. In my fields this variety strongly resembles the celebrated "Ambassador" in form and color, though it is a bit smaller, which makes it less desirable as an exhibition variety, though much more desirable as a cut flower. \$2.00.

- CLEMENTINA WING** (Decorative)—A bright crimson cut flower. 30c.
- COUNTESS OF LONSDALE** (Cactus)—I grow this old variety because nearly everybody loves it. One of the best garden and smaller cut-flower varieties ever grown. These blooms are produced on long, gracefully stiff stems of great strength, with an abundance that is dazzling in its loveliness. The foliage, which is rather sparse, has that dark, leathery consistency that characterizes the best varieties of modern development. A lovely autumn shade of rich salmon and apricot. 35c.
- CUBAN GIANT** (Colossal Show)—An immense, deep crimson, on long, straight stems. 25c.
- DADDY BUTLER** (Hybrid Cactus)—Face of rosy carmine, with silvery rose reverse, producing a lovely two-toned contrast. An artistic garden and cut-flower variety; also quite popular for exhibition collections. One of the "Bessie Boston" masterpieces. \$1.50.
- DELICE** (Decorative)—A lively, true pink; very good stems. Old but quite popular because of its charming color and suitable size for home bouquets. 25c.
- D. H. MOORE** (Decorative, emerging from the Show)—Black over deep mahogany red; brilliant golden center usually. Floriferous and nice for the garden where tall plants are desired. 25c.
- DOROTHY ROBBINS** (Decorative)—Buff, ochre, suffused orange. Pretty; good stems. 35c.
- EDITH** (Collarette)—A brilliant orange gold, with white and gold feathers intermingled. It does not bleach. 25c.
- ELISE DREXLER** (Hybrid Cactus)—Another "Bessie Boston" deep velvety maroon, of huge size and depth, borne on top of a straight, strong stem. \$1.00.
- ELITE GLORY** (Decorative) — One of the very largest, most spectacular Dahlias ever grown. As gorgeous as a volunteer fire department on parade. Robust plants, powerful stems. Scarlet. \$8.00 Net.
- ELLINOR VANDERVEER** (Decorative)—Mrs. Seal's magnificent rose pink. Erect on long, stiff stems. Tremendously popular with Dahlia specialists. \$4.00 Net.
- EL DORADO** (Decorative)—A giant, golden yellow of even formation, originated on the "Bessie Boston Dahlia Farm." This is still a great favorite, particularly for exhibition purposes, and it has been a notable prize winner. Excellent stems, foliage, substance, color, form, etc. \$4.00.
- EL GRANADA** (Hybrid Cactus)—Another of the "Bessie Boston" Dahlias that created a furor amongst Dahlia growers. Face of deep orange, with gold reverse, making a lovely combination that has been unusual. A tall grower that produces long and stiff stems. \$5.00 Net.
- EMMA MARIE** (Hybrid Cactus)—Here is one of entrancing loveliness, over which people exclaim, "How exquisite!" rather than "How gorgeous." A truly artistic cut flower and garden variety, that has won tremendous popularity. A glowing pink with creamy white center. Large enough for all purposes; on very long stems. \$3.00 Net.

- ETHEL M (Hybrid Cactus)**—Here is a joy producer. The plants are always covered with large blooms, the last as good as the first. A glowing amaranth pink, lighter at the tips, with creamy white center. Petals quill most alluringly; very large and deep. One of the best, we think. \$1.25.
- FAITH GARIBALDI (Decorative)**—A superb silvery rose pink exhibition variety that has taken many prizes. \$4.00 Net.
- FRANCIS LOBDELL (Hybrid Cactus)**—In this variety Mr. W. H. Waite has given us a charming Dahlia. Still one of the best all-round varieties we have for all purposes—exhibition, garden and cut flower. A very large bloom, in a delicate combination of pink and white. Robust grower, with fine stems. \$1.50.
- F. W. FELLOWS (English Cactus)**—The best English Cactus I know. One of the greatest favorites for all purposes. A huge orange scarlet ("burnt orange" I call it); bloom on exceedingly long, very rigid stems, though the throat is a bit unstable. Lasts well as a cut flower. I have a fine stock of this variety, as it particularly loves Virginia. 40c.
- FLORADORA (Cactus)**—A most profuse blooming garden variety of velvety crimson. 20c.
- GEORGE WALTERS (Hybrid Cactus)**—A very large coral rose, suffused with gold, or amber, in the center. A very profuse bloomer, on long, graceful stems, which make it a highly desirable variety for house and garden. One of the varieties that has achieved permanent popularity. 50c.
- GLADYS SHERWOOD (Hybrid Cactus)**—A great favorite everywhere, that does exceptionally well in the South, growing from eight to nine inches across without forcing. A white, star-like flower of rare beauty; borne on very stiff stems. Disbud freely for long stems, as the immense blooms are disposed to grow down into the heavy foliage of a low-growing plant. 75c.
- GLORY OF NEW HAVEN (Decorative)**—A pinkish mauve of great size that many people consider very beautiful. Profuse bloomer. 50c.
- GOLDEN GATE (Cactus)**—Here is a Dahlia I love, that wouldn't get anything but a laugh at a big Dahlia exhibition. As a flower it is artistic; as a Dahlia it lacks regularity of form and great size; but it makes a lovely show in my fields; and as it stands stiffly erect on very long stems, I use it abundantly for big bouquets where I desire a golden yellow and copper-colored Dahlia to go into copper containers, such as in the house or Church. 35c.
- GRAND DUKE ALEXIS (Colossal Show)**—A large white, tipped with amethyst. 25c.
- GRENADIER (Decorative)**—A monster, big and deep, purplish maroon face, with pale silver reverse. As the petals quill and turn back, the combination is effective. Held upright on long stems. A notable "Bessie Boston" novelty. \$3.50.
- JACK ROSE (Decorative)**—Once a prize winner, now a humble old variety that still hangs on to please the neighbors. Rigid, long stems that bear large blooms in great profusion. A rich, velvety crimson. 20c.
- JANE SELBY (Decorative)**—A deserving, delicate mauve pink for cutting. 75c.
- JEAN CHAZOT (GAY PAREE) (Hybrid Cactus)**—A lovely golden bronze to nasturtium scarlet. A satisfactory variety for home use, of clean-growing habits, with excellent stems. 75c.

- JERSEY'S BEAUTY** (Decorative)—The Dahlia that made W. H. Waite famous, and gave a new slant on Dahlia development. No Dahlia has ever had the popularity of this variety, and it will continue one of the most beloved varieties long after some of the more recent novelties are forgotten. Many of us still think it is the most beautiful of all for exhibition, for garden, and for cut-flower work. Color, a most refined and exquisite Eosine pink that glistens in the light. Borne in profusion, erectly on canelike stems that may be had (by disbudding) nearly four feet long. It is the ideal that every hybridizer has when agonizing over his own baby seedlings. It is cheap only because all growers have it. **\$1.50 Net.**
- JERSEY'S BEACON** (Decorative)—Another of Mr. Waite's exhibition sensations. Huge and deep. Chinese scarlet, with a paler reverse; on excellent stems. **\$5.00.**
- JERSEY'S IDEAL** (Decorative)—Waite's wonderful lavender pink. A splendid exhibition variety, and distinctive for the large garden. **\$10.00.**
- JERSEY'S JEWEL** (Decorative)—Mallow pink, huge blossoms, on superb stems. Good for very big effects. **\$5.00.**
- JERSEY'S RADIANT** (Hybrid Cactus)—Here is one of Mr. Waite's varieties that has held out against strong competition. I find it a fascinating variety. A rich, bitter-sweet orange, on excellent stems that can't often be surpassed. (By the way, Dahlia fans, I have a "sport," or "break," of Jersey's Radiant that is going to make a real sensation. So watch out for my **ALBEMARLE RADIANT SPORT**.) **\$5.00.**
- JUDGE MAREAN** (Decorative)—An ever-popular all-purpose variety, though not very new. Salmon pink, orange red, and pure gold, beautifully combined, that is even more attractive under artificial light than by day, which is superlative praise, but none too much. Very free flowering; on excellent, stiff stems. **80c.**
- LITTLE JEWEL** (Jeweltje)—A two-inch peach blossom pink novelty, of tremendous popularity for table decoration, house, and garden. Combines well in the mixed flower garden. Very dainty. A free bloomer. **40c.**
- KALIF** (Hybrid Cactus)—A very large, bright scarlet. Good for garden and cutting. **50c.**
- KATHERINE DUER** (Peony)—Some sentimental woman—the kind that always wishes to sing "Auld Lang Syne" after every party—wrote an article in the "Garden Magazine" asking, "And now where is that Katherine Duer we all loved so much?" (She was decrying the present tendency towards the development of large varieties.) Well, here it is, madam—about 500 roots of it! You let me in for something to corner the market with. However, it is a cute two-inch "Triplex" of deep velvety scarlet, yellow center. Splendid stems for cutting. Healthy foliage reticulated. Ought to be valuable for hybridizing small varieties so much in demand. (Would sell by the peck.) **25c.**
- KITTY DUNLAP** (Decorative)—Large, free blooming, general purpose variety of American Beauty Rose color. The perfect cut flower almost, and a wonderful keeper. A notable "Bessie Boston" favorite. **\$1.00.**
- KOH-I-NOOR** (Hybrid Cactus)—I love a deep velvety red, and when I find a Dahlia of this color that doesn't sun bleach, I am quite pleased. "Bessie Boston" introduced this one. The blossom is of great size and depth, borne erectly on long, strong stems, which gives it great charm for all purposes where size can be used advantageously. It is not a tall-growing plant. It is a consistent bloomer. **\$2.25.**

- LA FAVORITA** (Hybrid Cactus)—A very attractive, brilliant orange, on a long, rigid stem. Honesty requires me to say, however, that extra spraying is necessary for "Leaf Hopper," as this variety seems especially toothsome for this pest. 40c.
- LE GRAND MANITOU** (Decorative)—A popular old fancy variety, because of color, which is lilac, splashed with purple. 35c.
- LA GROSSE BETE** (Decorative)—An immense and deep blossom of rich velvety red of wonderful brilliancy. There is something unusual about the way the petals quill in perfect formation, which suggests an artificial flower. Extra long and powerful stems. 75c.
- LA MASCOTTE** (Decorative)—"The unique coloring is a two-toned effect, as the petals are a silvery white with a deep violet reverse." That is the way "Bessie Boston" describes her own variety, which is a charming one for a vase flower. Good stems. \$1.00.
- MABEL THATCHER** (Decorative)—Another of the joys of the Dahlia garden. A striking, light golden yellow that attracted considerable favorable comment in my fields last year. One of the very best in this color. Very desirable for garden and exhibition. Long, powerful stems that bend gracefully, but not always perfectly. \$1.00.
- MANDALAY** (Hybrid Cactus)—Tawny gold, shading to amber at center, with bronze reflex. \$1.50 Net.
- MARGARET MASSON** (Decorative)—A gorgeous silvery rose pink of great size and depth. An exhibition and garden variety that challenges the attention. A constant bloomer; on strong and rather long stems. Not very tall plants. \$3.50.
- MARIPOSA** (Hybrid Cactus)—One of the loveliest, most refined Dahlias grown. A real masterpiece from "Bessie Boston's" farm. Long, incurved petals which twist and curl, giving the bloom great size and depth. A pure, light pink on the Pacific Coast, but quite often a somewhat mauve pink in the East. Long stems that hold the blooms gracefully. \$1.75.
- MARMION** (Decorative)—The last word in huge Dahlias. The prizeiest of prize-winning exhibition varieties. A lovely tone of soft golden yellow, with slight bronze suffusion on the reverse. Good stems, sturdy plants, and too big to be planted with other varieties. Just an exhibition variety. \$10.00.
- MILLIONAIRE** (Decorative)—An enormous exhibition lavender, shading to white. Fair stems if disbudded freely. 50c.
- MINAMOTO** (Cactus)—A lively, large, velvety, deep scarlet, borne well on excellent, strong stems. Withstands sunlight without bleaching or dulling. Good cut flower. 60c.
- MISS YOUNGS** (Single)—A very large white single, heavily suffused with carmine; silvery carmine reverse. Strong, long stems which make an attractive show in the garden and vase. 30c.
- MORDELLA** (Decorative)—An outstanding variety of bright apricot buff. Very large flowers, held well above the foliage on long, graceful stems. \$2.50 Net.
- MR. CROWLEY** (Decorative)—The liveliest, most exquisitely lovely salmon pink I have ever seen in any flower, whatever. Base of petals a soft yellow. Nice dwarf plant, with medium to large blooms held well on stiff stems. A real beauty, marred by the fact that the stems have to be "dug" out of the plants by severe disbudding. \$1.00.

- MR. H. C. DRESSELHUYS (Decorative)**—Here is the variety for that artistic lady that lives in the pretty little white house with all the green shrubbery. A rather "smallish" clear pink that produces numerous blooms on long, graceful stems for the vases. We may call this variety "exquisite" rather than "wonderful." 75c.
- MRS. ANDREW BOWDEN (Cactus)**—An oriental scarlet; otherwise like Countess of Lonsdale in all respects. 30c.
- MRS. CARL SALBACH (Decorative)**—Lavender pink of good size; on long stems for cutting. A great favorite. 50c.
- MRS. C. D. ANDERSON (Colossal Show)**—Rich purplish crimson of great size. Free flowering, on splendid stems. Better than Cuban Giant, because of vigorous foliage. 50c.
- MRS. I. DE VER WARNER**—Marean's large, soft orchid pink; on perfect stems. One of the three best commercial cut flowers. 75c.
- MRS. JOHN T. SCHEEPERS (Decorative)**—A lovely canary, changing to pink suffusion on outer petals. Great refinement of coloring. Good stems. \$1.25.
- MRS. ROOSEVELT (Colossal Show)**—An immense cream white, overcast with lavender mauve. Attractive formation. I get powerful stems, but the necks are a bit brittle. 35c.
- MRS. WANAAR (Hybrid Cactus)**—Not "massive," as it is often described, but a medium-sized creamy white, tinted lavender. Quite popular as a home flower. 40c.
- NEWPORT WONDER (Single)**—A very large, rose pink (Newport Pink), single variety, of great beauty. Charming for vase flowers. This type pleases the more conservative flower lovers. \$2.00.
- NONE-SO-FAIR (Peony)**—Pale mauve pink, on good stems.....50c.
- PAPILLON (Hybrid Cactus)**—Old rose with golden lights. Very large, very free blooming, very good stems. One of the most artistic of the "Bessie Boston" introductions, and some people have voted it the most beautiful of all Dahlias. \$2.00.
- PEARL WHITE (Decorative)**—Here is a Dahlia that should be better known. A lovely, huge white, with faint pearl-pink glowing seductively around the center. It is very full and regularly formed, rather suggesting a super-dreadnaught show. But the coloring and habits redeem it. Superb foliage of dark green. Very long, graceful stems. A splendid cut flower. 75c.
- PEERLESS (Decorative)**—Large, deep bloom of clear sulphur yellow, held erectly on stiff stems. \$2.00.
- PEPPERMINT CANDY (Cactus)**—What a striking exhibition and garden variety this would be if it didn't have a rubber neck that wobbles! A very sparkling white, with bright red blotches; hence its name. Perfect conformation of bloom, long stems, striking in color. 75c.
- PERLE DE LYON**—Here is an old white cactus of medium-sized blooms that pleased everybody, this past Summer, when they asked for white garden and cut flowers. Long and strong stems that hold the blooms erectly. An abundant bloomer. An excellent cut flower for the Church and for floral work. 30c.

- PIERROT** (English Cactus)—A most attractive deep amber, tipped with white. Blooms very large and incurved. Floriferous. But the least said about the stems of English cactus varieties the better. 35c.
- PRIDE OF NEW BEDFORD** (Decorative)—A nice white of good size, on long, graceful stems. An attractive cut flower. 75c.
- PRINCESS PAT** (Decorative) — Regular in formation, large in size, long stemmed; high-growing variety of popularity. Rose shaded with buff and amber, with a silver and gold dusting. 75c.
- QUEEN MARY** (Decorative)—I grow hundreds of these, disbud them for long stems, and every one wishes them for Church and home decoration. Bloom (measuring four inches and larger—depends how they are grown) borne rigidly upright to face you, on cane-like stems. A soothing, soft pink in color, with a silvery over-tone that is charming. This makes a lovely display in my fields and everybody admires it. We can keep it three or four days in water, and sometimes longer. 35c.
- QUEEN WILHEMINA** (Peony)—I list this because some people still ask for it. Large, fluffy, pure white, long stems, but very weak. 20c.
- ROBERT TREAT** (Decorative)—One of the loveliest, most brilliant shades of American Beauty red. It was a prize-winning sensation. Fine foliage on tall-growing plants; perfect stems for cutting. A glorious all-purpose variety, if the tips on outer edge didn't bleach as they do—unless shaded. Still, everybody that came here admired it exceedingly. \$2.00.
- ROLLO BOY** (Hybrid Cactus)—A large-sized Hybrid, carried perfectly erect on a strong stem. Delicate amber, shading to old gold. An all-purpose Dahlia of great merit. \$2.50 Net.
- ROOKWOOD** (Decorative)—I believe "Bessie Boston" loves this variety best of nearly all her introductions, though she seems to have gone over somewhat to Faith Garibaldi. It is a truly lovely Dahlia for all purposes and a most satisfactory variety to grow. A glorious bouquet in the garden at all times; quite large cerise rose blooms of good depth, borne gracefully on long stems. It lasts well as a cut flower. And it does better in the East, I believe, than Faith Garibaldi. \$2.75.
- ROSA NELL** (Decorative)—Grow eight, nine, and even ten inches across in my fields, without any special treatment other than disbudding. Strangely enough, these massive blooms were held bravely erect on long, very strong stems. Color: "bright rose," say some, but a sparkling, deep rose for me. (I believe my soil produces deeper coloring than some. An acid content would account for this.) 65c.
- ROSE FALLON** (Decorative)—Immense sensation at the New York Show for two years. A tremendous variety for exhibition purposes. Color: deep old gold. \$10.00.
- ROSE ASH** (Hybrid Cactus)—Unique and beautiful. "Tan, heavily overlaid with pink, and shaded with chrome yellow. The reverse is smoky pink." Large and a good stem for cutting. This is an artistic Dahlia recently released by "Bessie Boston." \$2.00 Net.
- SAGAMORE** (Decorative)—One of the three leading Dahlias for cut-flower work with florists in the East. (Jersey's Beauty and Mrs. I DeVer Warner are the other two.) A long-stemmed, free-blooming variety, producing superb, large blooms of a rich golden yellow. A noble all-purpose variety. \$3.00 Net.

SANHICAN'S MAGNATE (Decorative)—How can words paint the picture of the elusive, yet bold, variations of coloring as found in this variety? Immense! No question about that. The coloring saves it, however, from being just another extravagance in huge Dahlias. A pale amaranth pink; reverse of solid claret color, heavily veined. Numerous blooms held quite well up on fairly long, very strong stems. Fine for exhibition and garden. Plants vigorous, but rather of low growth. \$5.00.

SANHICAN'S RUBY (Decorative)—A tall-growing, powerful variety that always attracted special attention. A huge, deep, well-formed bloom of rich "pigeon's blood" color, heavily suffused towards center, with bronze dusting. Free bloomer. Get this: The true stem is only three inches long and the bloom is submerged by the foliage, if it grows naturally; but if you disbud heavily, you get a good stem of broom-handle size and capacity, almost. I regard this as a big bargain. \$1.00.

SCARAMOUCHE (American Cactus)—Nopal red (dull scarlet), on long, strong stems. Good cutter. 50c.

648 (American Cactus, name lost)—Somewhat better than the above Scaramouche, I believe; at least it is more brilliant, with "crab-claw" tips. 40c.

SNOWDRIFT (Decorative)—A giant white, with broad, waxy petals of great length. This should be heavily disbudded to get a fairly long stem. Held rigidly on a strong stem, however. \$1.00.

SHUDOW'S LAVENDER (Decorative)—One of "Bessie Boston's" surest hits. Color a silvery lavender, with the broad petals shading to white midrib. A very good bloomer in some localities. Very pretty reticular foliage, and stiff stems of good length. \$1.75 Net.

STACY TRENT (?)—Fisher and Masson, the originators, list this as a Decorative. Out of fifty blooms on my plants, however, all came Peony. As a Peony (open-centered type), it is quite attractive. Very large blooms on very long, somewhat droopy stems. A clear rose pink. 75c.

STANDING COLLARETTE—One of the largest collarettes. Purplish red over white, with pronounced upright feathers of similar coloring. 30c.

SOUVENIR de GUSTAVE DOUZAN (Decorative)—Immense Oriental scarlet, on good, stiff stems. Free bloomer, but not consistent. 30c.

SUSAN B. COE (Decorative)—Here is a beauty of charm. Yellow, suffused heavily with rich salmon and rose pink. The petals are quite irregularly disposed, which some of us prefer to the more conventionally formed. A very large bloom, not of great depth, held erectly on long, very strong stem. I have grown this variety for four years, and I have not had one plant out of dozens ever disappoint me in any way. Many very artistic people have examined this Dahlia and voted it a variety of great loveliness of coloring and formation. \$1.00.

SUSANNAH WHITE (Single)—A chaste, white Single, with golden yellow center. An excellent cut flower for house and Church, and very lovely in the mixed garden. Tremendously popular in Virginia. 25c.

SYLVIA (Decorative)—Cream and pink; commercial.....25c.

THE EMPEROR (Decorative)—One of Marean's best, if you like a deep velvety red, as I do. It does not sunburn with us. A very large and deep bloom, with petals that crinkle and twist attractively. Exceedingly long and strong stems on tall plants. \$1.50.

- TRYPHINNIE** (Decorative)—Unusual. Reminds one, perhaps, of a lovely water lily. Large, pale yellow and rose pink "rubbed" against each other, rather than suffused. Stiff stems that hold face of flower skyward, but not very long, as the plant is not tall growing. A pretty garden variety. 50c.
- THE IMP** (Cactus)—A dark velvety red, of good size. This is a very old variety, but likeable for garden effects. 25c.
- TRENTONIAN** (Decorative)—A giant exhibition variety of unusual coloring. "Indian skin," say the introducers in New Jersey; but the Dahlia is more like dull copper than an Indian's skin really is. A sensation at the largest Dahlia shows, where it has been a notable prize winner. A powerful stem, but it must be heavily disbudded for long stems. \$3.00 Net.
- TOMMY ATKINS** (Decorative)—A flaming scarlet that is not garish, but is very lovely. It just sparkles and seems to revel in the sunlight without bleaching. Fine form, excellent stems, large enough to hold its own in the field against the overpowering competition of more massive blooms. We bring it into the house with darker reds. This is a "Boston" Dahlia of permanent desirability. \$1.75.
- UNCLE TOM** (Cactus)—A likeable old variety for the garden. Deep crimson, with purplish to black overcast. Not to be confused with a more recent introduction of the same name. 25c.
- THE U. S. A.** (Peony)—A huge, rather heavy flower of glowing orange. Quite handsome bloom, but stems are a bit pendant. 75c.
- VALLEY FORGE** (Decorative)—Huge velvety crimson, on low plants. Stiff stems, but not as long as they should be for so large a bloom. Some catalogues mention the fact that many of the blooms show white; but I have had only two blooms come that way in three years. Good as a red, where sixteen-inch stems are sufficient. 75c.
- VENUS** (Decorative)—An early Marean introduction. Blooms of medium size, in creamy white, heavily suffused with lavender. A good cutter. 50c.
- WASHINGTON CITY** (Hybrid Cactus)—A good white for home use. Not as good as generally advertised. 60c.
- WHITE SISTER** (Hybrid Cactus)—A notable, immense white, originated by Mrs. Charles H. Stout. Quite a charming variety, held erectly on stiff stems. Free blooming. \$3.00.
- WINFIELD SLOCOMBE** (Decorative)—Because of its coloring, this is my favorite yellow—or orange yellow. Perfect in form, stem and foliage. Very lovely for garden and cut-flower work. \$1.00 Net.
- WORLD'S BEST WHITE** (Decorative)—In my opinion, this is properly named for the present. The stems are long and strong, but the immense and deep bloom is a bit heavy. A gracious formation of petals that twist attractively, relieving it of the cold, apathetic look so characteristic of some of the largest white exhibition varieties. \$2.50.
- ZANTE** (Hybrid Cactus)—The last, but not the least, of the Bessie Boston introductions I list in this catalogue. A fine exhibition and cutting variety, of gold, heavily suffused with apricot. Perfect stems and a good keeper. \$5.00.

I list a few Pompon Dahlias. These are very popular in many localities. I think they have a place in the flower world. They are low growing and quite free flowering, which makes them suitable for bedding in the garden, as smaller marigolds are used. Then, for the sunny breakfast room, for instance, they are a crisp, lively note to the table:

BELLE OF SPRINGFIELD—Very small scarlet.

BOBBY—Deep plum.

FASCINATION—Rose pink.

GIRLIE—Pinkish mauve.

GLOW—Salmon cerise.

KLEIN DOMITIA—Orange buff (a favorite).

MARS—Deep scarlet.

MIGNON—Robust growing, bright scarlet.

SNOWCLAD—Small white, good stems.

Any of the above for 20 cents; one-half dozen for \$1.00.



CHOICE VARIETIES FOR HOME GARDEN

Had I a town garden where I could grow only a few Dahlias, along with some other flowers (which would make the largest exhibition varieties taboo), here is a list from which I would choose, according to my requirements:

White:

World's Best White.
Susannah White.
Pearl White.

Pink:

Jersey's Beauty.
Mariposa.
Emma Marie.
Newport Wonder.
Mr. C. H. Dresselhuys.
Susan B. Coe.
Ethel M.
Francis Lobdell.
Queen Mary.
Mr. Crowley.
Albemarle Pet (1929).

Rose:

Lillian Baldwin.
Papillon.
Rookwood.
Mrs. I. DeVer Warner.
Azusa.
Kitty Dunlap.
Rose Ash.

Lavender:

Margaret of Loudoun (1929).
Shudow's Lavender.

Yellow:

Sagamore.
Winfield Slocomb.
Ambassador or Cinderella.
Mabel Thatcher.
Golden Sunshine (out).

Autumn Shades:

Jersey's Radiant.
Jean Chazot.
Nagel's Roem (stock 1928).
Albemarle Radiant Sport (1929).
F. W. Fellows.
Countess of Lonsdale.

Red:

Albemarle Garnet (1928).
Tommy Atkins.
The Emperor.

"TRY YOUR LUCK" COLLECTIONS

Many people would like to experiment, or "try their luck," with inexpensive Dahlias, before buying a lot of costly novelties. This is a very wise plan.

Again, there are some people who wish a few nice Dahlias for the garden, that will give them enough pretty blooms for house and table decoration.

For such buyers, I put up collections at a very low price. Into these collections I put two classes of Dahlias:

(1) Good varieties that I am not continuing, as the demand favors more recent introductions that I must carry.

(2) My own seedlings that are very good, but which are not distinctive enough to replace varieties as good or better already on the market.

To illustrate: I occasionally get a seedling that strongly resembles "Kitty Dunlap," but which is not better than this notable variety, and which cannot honorably be sold as "Kitty Dunlap"; so, though it is about equally as good as that variety, I have to let it go. Thus, the buyer gets something very fine, at a very low cost. Then, also, I get many open-center sorts. Some of the more artistic people like this sort best of all, but the present Dahlia sentiment is for the more formal blooms that show no center, whatever. So, these lovely open-centered ones are put in my "Try Your Luck" collections. However, Dahlias that would not be desirable in an amateur's garden, I dig up and throw away. I am often told I am entirely too critical. Hence I can recommend these collections to people who desire a few nice Dahlias for home use, rather than for exhibition purposes.

GENERAL COLLECTION—Six for One Dollar.

SPECIAL COLLECTION—Six for Two Dollars

In ordering, give me some idea as to colors desired.

NOTE.—All my seedlings are carefully raised from pedigreed seed. You get good value for the money. It is better to get these seedlings of mine than many of the old varieties put out as "standards," because these plants have greater resistance.

IN CONCLUSION

If you are disposed to take your Dahlia operations at all seriously—and many prominent and very busy men and women are doing so—it would be well for you to do some “reading up” on the subject. The reading I am going to suggest has been very simply, interestingly, and delightfully written:

(1) If you wish something that is so absorbing that you will wish to read it all in one sitting, get *“The Amateur’s Book of the Dahlia,”* by Mrs. Charles H. Stout. Mrs. Stout has made a painstaking study of Dahlia culture, for the sheer love of it, and her book is considered the last word on the subject. I can wholeheartedly recommend it to every Dahlia grower. Mrs. Stout has grown Dahlias, scientifically, for many years. Also, she has conscientiously followed up the worth-while experiments of other investigators. The book is not dryly technical, but full of practical information that any one can understand and enjoy. Written in a style that reflects the charming personality and bright humour of the lady herself.

Another excellent and smaller book is *“A Little Book of Modern Dahlia Culture,”* by Mr. William H. Waite, which book is full of meaty information, concisely and clearly presented. Mr. Waite is one of our most conscientious hybridizers, who has produced some of our most recent prize-winning Dahlias, notably *“Jersey’s Beauty,”* the ideal Dahlia, if one exists. He is a master Dahlia grower, and when he sends one of his seedlings to the market, you may be absolutely certain that it is going to be a leader in its class. He is thoroughly competent to write an authoritative Dahlia book.

(3) Mr. W. W. Wilmore, of Denver, Colorado, has written a very excellent and reliable brochure called *“The Dahlia Manual,”* which every one should find very helpful. Mr. Wilmore has a wealth of experience at his command, as he has been growing Dahlias for nearly half a century. His letters to me show that he is a man of keen perception and understanding, and I have never regretted having taken his advice at any time.

(4) Then, if you wish to be in the thick of things and know what all the Dahlia growers have, are doing, and are talking about, in respect to Dahlias, take out a membership in the American Dahlia Society (dues \$2.00 per year), and get the *Bulletin* free, which is published four times a year. The *Bulletin* alone is worth several times your two dollars.

